

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 13533 191921Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03 ACDA-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 USIA-06 TRSE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6626
INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON
USMISSION NATO

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 13533

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: SWEL, NATO, PO, IT
SUBJECT: DISASTER RELIEF

REF: LISBON 6372 (NOTAL)

1. ALTHOUGH ITALIAN RECONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION FOLLOW-UP TO EARTHQUAKE OF LAST YEAR HAS BEEN LESS THAN OPTIMAL, WE WERE MUCH IMPRESSED WITH THE SPEED AND EFFECTIVENESS WITH WHICH THE GOI IMPLEMENTED ITS OWN EMERGENCY PLANS AND ENGAGED ITS WELL-ORGANIZED DISASTER RELIEF MACHINERY IN THE INITIAL EMERGENCY PHASE. IT OCCURS TO US THAT THE DEPARTMENT AND EMBASSY LISBON MAY WISH TO CONSIDER SUGGESTING TO THE GOP THAT IF IT HAS NOT ALREADY DONE SO IT COME INTO DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE GOI FOR INFORMATION ON HOW THE ITALIANS HAVE SYSTEMATIZED THE NATIONAL INSTRUMENTS OF COMMUNICATION AND INTERVENTION TO PROVIDE FOR QUICK AND DIMENSIONED RESPONSE TO CIVIL EMERGENCIES. IN A PRACTICAL SENSE THE ITALIAN EXPERIENCE MAY BE MORE CULTURALLY RELEVANT TO THE PORTUGUESE THAN OUR OWN. ALTERNATIVELY, OR INDEED CONCURRENTLY, THERE WOULD BE CONSIDERABLE VALUE IN URGING THE GOP TO SEEK THE
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KIND OF INFORMATION THEY NEED TO DEVELOP A NATIONAL EMERGENCY PLAN THROUGH THE CEP MACHINERY OF THE ALLIANCE.

2. THE PORTUGUESE REQUEST IN OUR VIEW OFFERS OPPORTUNITY TO CONTRIBUTE IN REAL IF ONLY MARGINAL WAYS TO ACHIEVEMENT OF SOME U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

OBJECTIVES, BY PROVIDING A FURTHER DEMONSTRATION OF
INTRA-ALLIED SOLIDARITY AND THE SPIN-OFF
BENEFITS OF MEMBERSHIP IN ALLIANCE, INVOLVING ITALY
DIRECTLY IN A PROGRAM WITH THE GOP IN THE BROADER CONTEXT
OF NATO "ASSISTANCE". FROM OUR
OWN PARISH PERSPECTIVE , SUCH COOPERATION WOULD ALSO EMBELLISH
A BIT THE DOMESTIC PUBLIC IMAGE OF THE PRESENT ITALIAN GOVERNMENT
AS THE SOURCE OF EXPERT ASSISTANCE TO AN ALLIANCE
PARTNER. HOLMES

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DISASTER RELIEF, NATURAL DISASTERS, EMERGENCY PLANNING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 19-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Secure: OPEN
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